Arensman wins 19th stage, Pogacar nears title

LA PLAGNE, France — Dutch rider Thymen Arensman launched a daring solo attack on a long final climb and held on grimly to win the 19th stage of the Tour de France on Friday.

Although race leader Tadej Pogacar took a step closer to a fourth Tour title, the Slovenian star could not catch Arensman. He finished the stage in third place behind Dane Jonas Vingegaard, who just beat Pogacar to the line.

It was a rare success for the two-time Tour winner Vingegaard over Pogacar in this year's race but ultimately made little difference, since Pogacar is 4 minutes, 24 seconds ahead of Vingegaard with two stages left.

Vingegaard could not drop Pogacar on Friday's shortened stage, which featured a 19.1kilometer (11.8-mile) finish up to the ski resort of La Plagne.

Arensman had shown his climbing ability with a stunning solo effort last Saturday to win a mammoth mountain

He made his move this time with 13 kilometers left. Pogacar and Vingegaard marked each other at first and chose not to follow.

By the time they did, it was too late and Arensman won the stage by 2 seconds.

"Tadej and Jonas are the strongest in the world, almost aliens, and I'm human," the 25-year-old Arensman said. "I can't believe I beat them today. I tried to not look behind."

Moments after crossing the line, Arensman put his hands on his face and wept as he sat on the ground against



Netherlands' Thymen Arensman crosses the finish line to win the nineteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 93.1 kilometers (57.85 miles) with start in Albertville and finish in La Plagne, France, Friday, July 25, 2025.

with exhaustion.

"I'm absolutely destroyed, I can't believe it. To win one stage from the breakaway was already unbelievable," he said. "But now to do it against the strongest riders in the world, it feels like I'm dreaming."

STAGE SHORTENED AFTER COWS INFECTED

Stage 19 was shortened after cows infected by a contagious disease were culled in an area along the mountainous route.

It was meant to be 129.9

a crash barrier, panting heavily kilometers long but trimmed to 93.1 kilometers. Two of five climbs were removed, including the 13.7 kilometer Col des Saisies — where an outbreak of nodular dermatitis (lumpy skin) affected a herd of cows.

> The discovery of an outbreak of contagious nodular dermatitis affecting cattle in a herd located specifically in the Col des Saisies necessitated the culling of the animals," race organizer ASO said. "It was decided, in agreement with the authorities, to modify the

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Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, celebrates on the podium after the nineteenth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 93.1 kilometers (57.85 miles) with start in Albertville and finish in La Plagne, France, Friday, July 25, 2025.



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Detailed information regarding this project can be obtained from the Vine Grove City Engineer (Mr. Bob Woosley, P.E.) by email-ing him your request at bwoosley@heritageeng.com. If you would prefer to review hard copies they are on file for public inspection at City Hall

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